Atty. Dkt. No. 038602-1259

On page 40, delete the paragraph beginning 25 and ending on line 33, and replace this paragraph with the following in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121. A marked up version showing changes is attached.

Antibodies recognizing MKK1 and MKK2 protein were made in rabbits using standard procedures. The anti-carboxy terminus MKK1 antibody was generated using the synthetic peptide GQDADGSTSPRSQEP (SEQ ID NO 22). The amino-terminus MKK1 Ab was generated using a GST-fusion proteins containing 78 amino acids coded by the Smal to BG12 fragment of the MKK1 gene. The anti-carboxy terminus MKK2 Ab was made using a synthetic peptide corresponding to the sequence QQLLSSIEPLREKDKH (SEQ ID NO 23).

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 3 - 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16 - 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, and 28.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121, please substitute for original claims 10, 15, 17, and 19 the following rewritten versions of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicit in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

10. (Amended) An engineered host cell that contains the recombinant DNA vector of claim 7.

15. (Amended) The isolated recombinant MKK1 of Claim 14 comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in Figures 1A – 1C (SEQ ID NOS 1-2).

NE 17. (Amended) The isolated recombinant MKK2 of Claim 16 comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in Figures 2A and 2B (SEQ ID NOS 3-4).

NE 19. (Amended) The isolated recombinant MKK3 of Claim 18 comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NOS 5-6).